



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## **2017 Announcements in Support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

### **Announcements Focused on Financing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

#### **Alecta**

Alecta (Insurance, Sweden) has committed to exploring how they can work more with the SDGs in their operations through: (1) Actively engaging in the Swedish Investor for Sustainable Development forum, convened by Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), including leading a working group on SDG 8; (2) Engaging as a member in the UN Global Compact-GRI joint initiative to develop a reporting framework for the SDGs, to promote transparency and commitment among their portfolio companies ; (3) Looking for new investment opportunities that meet not only their financial targets but that can have an impact also from an SDG perspective – for example, in September, Alecta announced a USD 100 million commitment to an impact investment together with the Dutch development bank FMO; and (4) In Alecta's role as an occupational pension fund, sharing their knowledge of pension inequalities, to inform and promote gender equality in the workplace.

#### **Folksam Group**

Folksam Group (Insurance, Sweden) has, in a private placement, acquired Green Bonds issued by IFC – the private sector arm of the World Bank Group – valued at USD 350 million. As a result, the company's has reached its target of SEK 12 billion, and a new goal of SEK 25 billion has been set for 2018. In line with these targets, the company's allocation in Green Bonds will be 4% of total assets. Folksam is also committed to work with the Action Platform *Reporting on the SDGs* – co-led by the UN Global Compact and GRI, and supported by the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) – to investigate the possibilities of measuring investors' impact related to the SDGs and will continue to collaborate to advance this agenda.

#### **Fonds de Réserve pour les Retraites – FRR**

Tobacco is responsible for six million deaths a year worldwide, and generates considerable costs for healthcare systems and insurers. In response, the Fonds de Réserve pour les Retraites (Pension reserve fund, France) decided to exclude the tobacco industry from its portfolio at the end of 2016. The FRR has been firmly committed to the ecological and energy transition theme for the past three years. It has signed up to several international initiatives aimed at reducing its portfolio's greenhouse gas emissions (30% reduction of emissions versus benchmark levels) and excluding coal and related activities. FRR will continue work on positive investments such as green infrastructure and ecological transitioning.



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## **Hermes Investment Management**

In line with its mission of delivering long-term holistic returns for savers, Hermes (Investment management services, United Kingdom) commits to engaging with the largest carbon emitters in investments in its own fund portfolios and those it stewards on behalf of institutional investors worldwide. The engagement will have the express aim of encouraging enhanced disclosure of carbon emissions and the successful implementation of effective strategies by the investments to reduce carbon emissions and capture low-carbon opportunities.

## **Inherent Group**

Inherent Group (Investment management services, United States) invests in private and public companies whose products and services have positive impact and whose business processes display leading environmental, social, and governance practices. Inherent partners over the long-term with exceptional management teams to improve their businesses' financial and non-financial sustainability. They are in the process of developing an engagement roadmap and reporting framework for their portfolio companies and plan to integrate the SDGs where appropriate. Inherent will continue to invest across a number of industries, but their core themes include health care, clean energy, education, and healthy food.

## **Insurance Australia Group**

Insurance Australia Group (Insurance, Australia) is committed to working with Government, business and community in a collaborative way to help achieve the ambitious but essential targets within the SDGs. The three areas where they are committed to maximize their impact are: (1) SDG 13 – Based on their deep understanding of the risks associated with natural perils and climate-related events to help society to understand, prepare for and minimize the impact of these events; (2) SDG 11 – By using their expertise and partnerships to deliver resilient and sustainable communities and infrastructure; and (3) SDG 8 – Because insurance is a financial service that helps communities to thrive and recover from adversity, the need to support wide access to insurance is explicitly called for in SDG target 8.10. In particular, they also commit to engaging communities in disaster preparedness to mitigate impacts of climate change and will develop a new digital tool in partnership with the Australian Red Cross. The tool will launch in October and enable individuals, families and communities to connect with disaster preparedness information and to develop tailored emergency response plans to support their safety and resilience.



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## **KCB Group**

KCB Group (Financial services, Kenya) is committed to contributing to the green economy by partnering with other industry players to raise the first Green Bonds in their region for funding projects that have a positive environmental impact. KCB Group is also increasing its support to some of the climate change initiatives for arid and semi-arid areas, with a view to uplifting and empowering pastoral communities. They have committed USD 500 million over the next five years to supporting youth employment through an initiative dubbed '2Jiajiri' and commit to support regional agri-business through partnerships which seek to both empower farmers and empower underprivileged children by providing them with hydroponic farming training and markets for their produce. The KCB M-PESA app has allowed over eight million customers to access financial services, including instant loans over the mobile phone, and KCB Group commits to bring more customers into the fold.

## **Sarona Asset Management**

Sarona Asset Management (Private equity, Netherlands) is a B Corp, a PRI signatory, a member of the GIIN investor council, and 100% focused on investments that meet the company's social and environmental values. The SDGs are a welcome new framework for Sarona to integrate its approach into a broader network. Sarona is committed to the SDGs and their plan includes: Applying an SDG lens to their investment strategies, collaborating to identify the best metrics to measure contribution to the SDGs, and reporting on their efforts.

## **Şekerbank T.A.S.**

Şekerbank (Financial services, Turkey) aims to support rural development and sustainable agriculture by providing rural populations with access to financial resources through microfinancing. Under the women's banking initiative, Şekerbank has provided TRY 225.3 million in financing to approximately 7,500 female entrepreneurs. The company also reached approximately 70,000 agricultural families and provided 1.8 billion TL in 2015 and 2016 through the first of its kind "Family Farming Banking" program aimed at achieving production sustainability and discouraging the migration of farmers from rural areas and villages. Building on this, the company seeks to continue building new partnerships in financial inclusion in Turkey.



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## **Other Announcements Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

### **Amorepacific**

The goal of Amorepacific Group's (Cosmetics, South Korea) "20 by 20" Commitment to Every Woman Every Child (2017-2020) is to beautify the lives of 200,000 women by the year 2020 by contributing to their health, well-being, and economic empowerment. Amorepacific will contribute to reducing the mortality rate of female cancer and improving the lives of female cancer patients through supporting preventative education, screening of women's cancer (breast, gynecological cancer), cancer surgery for low-income women and post-surgery care and self-esteem restoration for female cancer patients. To do so, they plan to annually support 49,000 women with a minimum budget of KRW 3.5 billion (USD 3.08 million). Furthermore, Amorepacific will also contribute to women's independence and cultivate gender equality by enhancing women's economic empowerment. In order to do so, their goal is to annually support 1,000 women with a minimum budget of KRW 3.5 billion (USD 3.08 million) for the foundation of women's employment, economic independence, and confidence restoration. **[SDG 3, 5]**

### **Bridge International Academies**

Since launching, Bridge International Academies (Academia, Kenya) has focused on supporting the development of women and girls across Africa and Asia. Already, nearly half of Bridge students are female, and Bridge commits to educate at least 100,000 new female students at Bridge schools by 2020. **[SDG 4, 5]**

### **Carlsberg Group**

The Carlsberg Group's (Brewery, Denmark) sustainability programme, Together Towards ZERO, is a response to global challenges such as climate change, water scarcity and public health issues. It consists of four ambitions and corresponding targets to be achieved by 2022 and 2030 respectively. The ambitions are: ZERO carbon footprint, ZERO water waste, ZERO irresponsible drinking and a ZERO accidents culture. **[SDG 3, 6, 13]**

### **De La Rue**

De La Rue (Diversified, United Kingdom) commits to continue helping deliver SDG target 16.9 – ensuring a legal identity to everyone including birth registration. To do so, De La Rue has launched a working group of stakeholders across the Civil Registration community and those who rely on secure identities to try to crystalize the economic business case for Civil Registration for Governments, citizens and the private sector. **[SDG 16]**



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## **Eileen Fisher**

Eileen Fisher (Apparel, United States) will continue analyzing how their sourcing strategy and purchasing practices impact workers in the supply chain in order to proactively make changes to improve supply chain sustainability. In addition, the company is consciously reducing the need to dry clean products and inviting their customers to use safer chemistry for garment care. Eileen Fisher is also committed to becoming a carbon-neutral business, including a pledge to use water in an environmentally responsible and socially equitable way throughout their operations and supply chain, particularly in water stressed regions. **[SDG 6, 8, 12, 13]**

## **Fidelity Bank Plc**

Fidelity (Financial services, Nigeria) encourages staff members to participate actively in the Fidelity Helping Hands Programme (FHHP) – one of the major vehicles through which the company has initiated, developed and executed a good number of successful projects and sustainable initiatives. **[SDG 3, 4, 13]**

## **H & M Hennes & Mauritz GBC AB (H&M Group)**

Among other priorities, H&M Group (Apparel, Sweden) is committed to focusing their efforts on creating a well-functioning dialogue in the labour market since this is a precondition for achieving lasting improvements in working conditions for people. They are working to promote a dialogue where freedom of association is respected, where workers' representatives have a voice and where trade unions can negotiate and bargain collectively. These issues are also central in several of the company's collaborations, for example, within the Global Framework Agreement with IndustriALL and IF Metall which was converted into a permanent partnership in 2016. **[SDG 8]**

## **Iberdrola, S.A.**

Iberdrola (Utilities, Spain) focuses its efforts on an affordable and non-contaminating energy supply. The company's "Electricity for all" programme has more than 2.4 million beneficiaries and a 2020 goal to provide electricity to four million people who currently do not have access. Based on 2007 benchmarks, Iberdrola has also undertaken to reduce the intensity of its emissions by 20% in 2020 and 50% in 2030, aiming to become carbon neutral by 2050. **[SDG 3, 4, 7, 10, 13]**

## **Impact2030**

IMPACT2030 (Initiative in response to UN Resolution A/RES/66/67) is launching *Employees for the Global Goals* (#Employees4SDGs) to enable companies to activate their most valuable asset – their people – to do good for the world. The multi-lingual, open-source resources include: (1) Introducing the Global Goals – a workshop created in collaboration with AIM2Flourish and Medtronic Foundation that inspires employees to adopt roles they can play in advancing the SDGs in their local communities; and (2) Employees Teach the Global Goals – a collaboration with The World's Largest Lesson to establish an innovative workshop placing employee volunteers into classrooms around the world to help introduce children to the SDGs. **[SDG 4]**



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## **LG Electronics, Inc.**

With LG's (Technology hardware and equipment, South Korea) capacity to build products and solutions that match the changing trends and needs in our homes, workplaces and public spaces, LG is preparing for a future where their customers can enjoy continuous improvement in quality of life – with LG's Smart City. LG wants to deliver smart and intelligent choices that make an impact for tomorrow. LG's Smart City integrated platform will supply intelligent solutions for energy conservation, solar energy and energy storage. In alignment with SDG 7 and 11, they are committed to creating a clean and sustainable future that is accessible and affordable. **[SDG 7, 11]**

## **Nestlé**

One area of focus for Nestlé (Food and beverage, Switzerland) is the development of economic opportunities for youth. By 2030, Nestlé wants to help 10 million young people around the world access economic opportunities. The company's global youth initiative – Nestlé needs YOUth – will encompass the entire value chain, from the sourcing of raw materials to the manufacturing and distribution of their products. Nestlé wants to help equip the next generation for employment and help them become creative leaders in their company, successful agripreneurs, entrepreneurs and game changers regardless of their field or level of expertise. Nestlé is also committed to reducing food waste. As members of Champions 12.3, they are closely working with farmers to improve agricultural practices, zero waste to disposal in its production and distribution sites, as well as to engage and enable consumers to make more sustainable choices. **[SDG 2, 4, 5 and 8]**

## **Novo Nordisk A/S**

Novo Nordisk A/S (Pharmaceuticals, Denmark) has committed to reach 10,000 children with type 1 diabetes living in resource-poor settings in the Changing Diabetes® in Children programme, which was initiated in 2009. They have trained more than 8,500 healthcare providers and enrolled over 14,000 children in nine countries who now live active lives and are educated to take care of their condition. In 2017, Novo Nordisk has doubled their ambition to reach 20,000 children by 2020, supporting the aim of SDG target 3.4. **[SDG 3]**

## **SAP**

Following its announcement that it achieved 25% women in leadership, SAP (Software, Germany) has announced an additional commitment of 1% each year, up to 30% in 2022. **[SDG 5]**

## **Siemens AG**

Siemens (Technology, hardware & equipment, Germany) is the first global industrial player who set itself the target of becoming CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral at all of its sites by 2030. From 2009 to 2014 they have already managed to reduce their global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by around 20% by implementing energy efficiency measures. Between 2016 and 2020 Siemens will invest EUR 100 million into improving energy efficiency internally. **[SDG 7, 8, 9, 12, 13]**



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## **SUEZ**

SUEZ (Gas, water & multi-utilities, France) would like to publicly reaffirm three out of its 17 commitments outlined in the Sustainable Development Roadmap for 2021: (1) To promote diversity and wellbeing in the workplace by achieving a level of 33% of management positions filled by women Group-wide; (2) To adapt to the consequences of climate change on water by saving the equivalent of the water consumption of a city of more than two million inhabitants and promoting different usages of water by tripling their alternative water supplies by 2030; and (3) To develop climate responsible models by introducing a directive carbon price in 60% of the annual expenditure committed to new projects. **[SDG 5, 6, 13]**

## **Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd.**

Building on the completion of the first commitment in partnership with the UN Foundation's *Nothing But Nets* campaign delivering 1 million life-saving bed nets to refugees and IDPs in sub-Saharan Africa in 2016, Sumitomo (Chemicals, Japan) pledges to a second matching grant challenge to *Nothing But Nets* supporters: For every life-saving bed net donated, Sumitomo Chemical will match it, up to 350,000 nets for a total of 700,000 nets. Sumitomo Chemical's commitment to help *Nothing But Nets* and its UN partners working across sub-Saharan Africa is part of *Nothing But Nets*' new "P.L.E.D.G.E. to Protect" two million refugees and displaced individuals from malaria by the end of 2017. **[SDG 1]**

## **Telenor Group**

Telenor (Telecommunications, Norway) has committed to the following by 2020: (1) Income growth for poor and disenfranchised people; (2) Leverage digital services and connectivity in innovative ways to address social and economic challenges, with a target to provide mobile birth registration for seven million people – for example, in Pakistan Telenor, UNICEF and local authorities are partnering to increase birth registration rates using mobile connectivity; (3) Meaningful and safe digital participation, with a 2020 outcome for four million children trained on online safety; and (4) Improved working conditions across the supply chain, with a 2020 outcome of 100,000 hours of training and capacity building. **[SDG 10]**

###

*Since 2008, the UN Private Sector Forum has provided an annual opportunity for businesses to make commitments to contribute to UN development goals. Commitments are made for a variety of actions, programmes and projects, both independently and in partnership with other organizations. To ensure accountability, the UN Global Compact follows up with companies on their commitments on a two-year cycle.*



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



## Check-in on 2015 Announcements in Support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

*At the 2015 UN Private Sector Forum, a number of participants made commitments in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2017, the UN Global Compact reached out to those participants and asked whether they had reached their goals, what the challenges were, and the ways in which they are transforming their commitment to achieving the 2030 Agenda.*

*Below are highlights from some participating companies' progress reports. We invite you to read the full reports online at [unglobalcompact.org/2015commitments](http://unglobalcompact.org/2015commitments).*

###

**Avant Garde Innovations** (Renewable Energy, India) committed in 2015 to “provide its Small Wind Turbine patent-pending prototype as a cleantech solution to help make clean energy affordable and accessible”. In 2017, Avant Garde reports that it is “currently moving this revolutionary Small Wind Turbine ... into mass production... and is scheduled to begin supply towards the year end.”

**Aviva** (Financial Services, United Kingdom) committed in 2015 to “investing over US\$3.8 billion in low carbon infrastructure over five years... and support[ing] the creation of a public, transparent and authoritative benchmark on business and human rights...” In 2017, Aviva reports “we are launching the global consultation process to set up the World Benchmarking Alliance.” Additionally, Aviva has “already invested over £900m” in low carbon infrastructure.

**Enel** (Utility, Italy) committed in 2015 to “ensure electricity access to 3 million people in Africa, Asia and Latin America by 2020... [and] to ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education for 400,000 beneficiaries by 2020.” In 2017, Enel reports that it has ensured electricity access to “1.2 million beneficiaries, compared to the goal of 3 million beneficiaries by 2020”, and has already reached 300,000 people of its 400,000 education target.

**Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.** (Printing Services, Japan) committed in 2015 to “provide [learning] materials to 100,000 children across the Asia Pacific region by 2023.” In 2017, Fuji Xerox reports that “the project has been launched in the Philippines, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and Indonesia. By August 2017, the company has supported approximately 71,000 children by the collaboration with 17 external parties...”

**GSK (GlaxoSmithKline)** (Pharmaceutical, United Kingdom) committed in 2015 to “address health needs in [LDCs] by supporting the development and strengthening of healthcare infrastructures... [and] improve access to healthcare for 20 million underserved people by 2020...” In 2017, GSK reports that it has “trained over 400 entrepreneurs to sell 57,000 products in underserved communities...” Further, “[o]ver 52,870 children in Mozambique are now registered for mobile reminders and 72,234 vaccination visits have been recorded through our mVacciNation pilot with Vodafone.”





# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



**Novo Nordisk** (Pharmaceutical, Denmark) committed in 2015 to “support the refugee crisis in Syria”. In 2017, Novo Nordisk reports it has established “a mentoring and internship programme” at its Danish HQ to help refugees to “gain work experience, build networks and learn the Danish work culture.”

**Novozymes** (Biotechnology, Denmark) committed in 2015 to “catalyzing five global partnerships for change and delivering ten transformative innovations by 2020... [and to] educate 1 million people about the potential of biology by 2020.” In 2017, Novozymes reports that in Brazil, its education project about “how Biology can contribute to solving sustainability issues... [h]as already engaged nearly 24,000 people”, while in China, it is “working together with partners to expand applications of bio-solutions into recovery” of severely polluted water systems (“black and smelly rivers”).

**Royal DSM** (Chemical Manufacturing, Netherlands) committed in 2015 to work with the Dutch Government and other partners on a “charter outlining the role of business, civil society and cross-sector partnerships in the post-2015 global development agenda.” In 2017, DSM reports that the “SDG Charter has been signed by over a hundred organizations” and that “partnerships have sprung from it, for example on basic health care in Africa (lead Philips), human cities (lead Akzo Nobel) and sustainable investments (Dutch financial sector).”

**Safaricom** (Telecommunications, Kenya) committed in 2015 to “providing products and services that will deepen financial inclusion, bridge the digital divide and increase access to health and education”. In 2017, Safaricom reports that in the past year, it “delivered over 120 projects and products that created meaningful impact in health, agriculture and education.” This included “M-tiba, a digital platform for inclusive healthcare” which “provided affordable and accessible health care to over 1 million people”.

**Suez** (Gas, Water & Multiutilities, France) committed in 2015 to “reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 30% in 2030 compared to 2014 and to contribute to avoiding 60 million tons of greenhouse gases for its customers by 2020”. In 2017, Suez reports a “2.5% reduction in absolute terms” of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions in 2016 compared to 2015. The Group also reports that it has “contributed to avoid[ing] 18,625,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e for its customers since 2015, which is in line with the 2020 objective.”

**Sumitomo Chemical** (Chemicals, Japan) committed in 2015 “to protect refugee families from malaria... [and] match the number of insecticide-treated bed nets, up to half a million nets, donated to Nothing but Nets”. In 2017, Sumitomo reports that the “commitment was fulfilled in 2016, and helped to protect over 2 million refugees and vulnerable people”.

**Telenor Group** (Telecommunications, Norway) committed in 2015 to “leveraging the reach and capability of mobile connectivity for children’s survival and development...” In 2017, Telenor reports that they are working with partners on the Mobile Birth Registration project in Pakistan. The pilot phase “saw an increase in birth registration rates from 30 to 90 percent” which “could potentially help to limit child labour, trafficking and marriage as well as promote the planning of and access to public services.”



# UNITED NATIONS PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2017



**Titan Cement Company** (Construction and Materials, Greece) committed in 2015 to “promote the use of waterless and low-emission technologies in processing industrial mineral powders” and “by 2018, ... replace water intensive mineral processes at a rate of one million tons of material per year...” In 2017, Titan reports that through its subsidiary ST Equipment & Technology LLC, “the target has been met since 2016 and we remain on a positive growth path.”

**Fundación Novia Salcedo** (Nongovernmental Organization, Spain) committed in 2015 to its “International Campaign for the Youth Employment Decade”. In 2017, the Fundación reports that the Campaign now has support from “587 organizations and companies in 86 countries” and that there were presentations on the campaign at the ECOSOC Youth Forum in both 2016 and 2017.

**United Nations Relief and Works Agency** (UN, Palestinian Territories and Jordan) committed in 2015 to “to improve its education programme to support the goal of quality equitable and inclusive education”. In 2017, it reports that its 2016-2021 strategic plan takes a “systemic approach to strands such as the professionalization of teachers and the enrichment of curriculum towards strengthening of pupils’ competencies and life skills.”